Dublin 28th Feb. 1858

Sent on to N.Y.

Dear Mr Nicoll – Miss Euphemia Orr takes the Standard instead of Miss Ireland. Her address in Mr Webb's Address Book is 19, High Street, Belfast – but I am sure Belfast alone would find her much safely than if it were more particularised. I am almost certain that I sent her name in twice before – I often suffer in reputation for mistakes which I take great pains to prevent.

As to the Standard, I know they that for years past, since Olive Johnston & Jennings have had to do with it, it has been an infinitely better paper than it was in the sore dark days of despair – then it was dreadfully dry & heavy. Latterly it has been a splendid & admirable paper. I hope in the changes which are taking place the character may not lose it.

As to Mrs Chapman I do not think she would make a popular paper. She is too high, and touch in allusions, quotations, parentheses, & constitutions which drive common place readers to despair. I am fond of good, clear, plain English, and dislike Carlyleism & Emersonism & transcendentalism generally. The leaders in the Standard of late years I regard with admiration both for matter & manner.

As to the news about the Record I have not read with a single person who would throw them with approbation

Unless there who live in their country than have the chief burden of entertaining for main part an mistaken in their estimate of those with whom they have had to do. Mrs Chapman is quite astray in her estimate of the money that is likely to be got here. As far as I know very few have put the ready money – or are likely to do so. Miss Cutler, Mrs Wigham (who is now here) & Mrs Winchell (Miss E's aunt) are all of these – so is Mrs Edmundson & so is my wife. The best gifts came from Scotland – the friends of Mrs Wigham & Sarah. Great begging. The begged are few & could or would beg for the cause – but money could not be had in goods wd be – either in direct gifts or at a greatly reduced price. I know how much rubbish was collected – how much was wasted in freight & in duty – how shocking & lamentable the loss of time & health & effort to raise the Bahaas money. So much so that probably less money got with less pain might do more real good. Still I fear the falling off in receipts will be very great. Of course those who have hitherto given money – or goods bought with their money will give no less – perhaps more in future – and that will be clear cash in hand. But if the Bahaas contributions be no longer collected, this dribbling off of interest & connected with such offerings will be a great loss to the cause, so far as any thing we can do here can help it.

Miss Cutler has offered a suggestion which I think excellent. It is a fair business. It is that the collections here should be as heretofore but that the goods should go to Philadelphia where they mean to continue the fair, — and that the money of the whole business should be sent to Boston — with an understanding on our part with Philad. that the proceeds should be for the good of the general cause — that is for the Am. A.S. Society.

When I bring your dollars down to pounds sterling I have always been a subject of amazement to me that the whole United States & Great Britain can contribute at the utmost no more than £1200 to the great cause by all the efforts of the managers of the Boston Bazaar. Of all the British women there who do the most are the Wigham family — that is Mrs & Miss Wigham in Edinburgh — & Mrs Edmondson in Dublin. Miss Cutler gives money & service, Miss Waring (my sister in law) gives largely of her means — but the Wigham are real workers. Elizabeth Wigham is here now — one of the very sweetest spirits I ever knew, fit to step out into angels clothing, and the staunchest & bravest abolitionist in the three Kingdoms. Excuse my strong language — you know I am a Scotchman & I find it most natural to talk as I feel. I have an idea that it does not do (as Englishmen are apt to do) to measure all other people by the immovable standard of manner & language.

Since then hard times have come upon us
Mrs Cutten has bounded me about giving
up the Advocate and sending the money to
your treasury. I have told her as I have always
done that the matter was in her own hands
& that I ~~was~~ had no wish in the matter except
as the sales went. Mrs Lapham has had corre-
spondence with her on the subject. It is her ~~wish~~
~~the~~ opinion that the Advocate does great good
that it is liked in Edinburgh – that giving it up
would be a confession of defeat, especially in
connection with a giving up of the Bazaar at the
same time. The fate of the matter connected
with the Advocate are these. The members printed
is about 1200. The cost about £96 a year – the
returns about £32 with after heavy publishers
large deductions. The balance is made up by
donations of which perhaps £40 are Mrs Cutten's
own. I believe if she did not give them for the Advo-
cate, it would be sent to you. It is for you to
let us know your unbiassed opinion & we in
the meantime whatever you say wish I doubt not
decide the question. Mrs Cutten has little
opportunity of knowing what the Advocate does there
it chiefly circulates – she is told it is liked by
those who take it for the sake of doing some
thing & she concludes that it is so everywhere.
I have no little means of judging as the hap-
pier opinion is of no value. I never recom-
mended its establishment & I only took the
matter up at Mrs Cutten's earnest request &
have continued it sometimes at the cost of
a good deal of personal inconvenience, which

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I only mention to indicate that I was disinterested in the affairs. I cheerfully do & do whatever I can.

I am not a tampering person — far from it — I work by faith & not by sight not so much before — but rather in the confidence that who ever lives to see it, a bright day will at length come. State the general lament about the Bazaar & the probability of the Lord's (our own if can here) being given up has somewhat depressed me & rendered them unfavorable to undertaking any affairs I have been depressed to.

Go to Douglas & tell Griffith he can phrase the Mr Chapman I care nothing for what editors may say of me. I am in no haste about the vindication of what I have said — but when it is ready I would like to get it. I have not seen Douglas's paper for years & the fact of his opening out on me has not stimulated my curiosity.

Tell Gen Read ~~that~~ as much as if perhaps of this to Mr Chapman & say that if I had been at Gen's council meeting I would have gone with the majority in recommending that nothing should be said by the Standard or Liberator in way defence against Douglas. I agree that the less be said the better and I know the man so well & have seen so much of him as to be quite indifferent to anything he can say of me.

Sent on to the Standard

If there is no one in Hendry County or Portage than is necessary I recommend that the names of Maria Webb, Mary Roland, James Hanfield, & Thomas Blain be taken off the Standard lists, unless they pay which and probably none of them do. Mr. Orr was sent to me as a substitute for Mary Roland. Maria Webb has left Bulford for many years bitterest and abler enemy in these islands.

I am be very much obliged by ~~an~~ an early blunt expression of opinion about the Corporate – as to whether you think it better for the cause that you should sell the money which has gone to it or that the papers such as it is should be continued. No one knows its imperfections or thinks more of them than I do. If I know my own mind, I have no doubt but that what is best for the cause should be done & I expect you will continue to write to me as I think you have heretofore done, with perfect freedom

Mrs Chapman told me the other day that with the exception of Garrison there was not one of the abolitionists whose judgment she esteemed more highly than yours.

Will you authorize Mrs Chapman to read answering her letter directly — but you can say to her from me that hurried letter as I should have said to her had I written immediately

It was not from ~~to~~ you but from her that I heard about the Bazaar so you told me no secret

Ever yours affectionately

Richard Webb

Will you be kind to remember me to Mr Pillsbury when you can. I constantly think of him & my memory is ever green with regard to him. What have you heard of G. Thompson? I hear smutty insinuations from Mrs Chapman letter — but no particulars

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